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DOWNHAM RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1966

Including the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector
(Mr. G.S. Sennitt, M.A.P.H.I., M.I.P.H.E., A.R.S.H.)

Dr. J. McD. Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.

D O W N H A M R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

Offices: Priory Road, Downham Market.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH, WATER AND GENERAL
PURPOSES COMMITTEE:-

Chairman: Mr. G.E. Garfoot

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A.E. Bailey

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mr. Wm.H. Bentley | Mr. R.H. Payne |
| Mr. A.J. Blott | Miss G. Peat |
| Mr. A. Fox | Mr. E.R.M. Pratt |
| Mr. C.B. Gates | Mr. H.G. Teverson |
| Mr. A.J. Hawkins | Mr. A.J. Thornton (Resigned 24.6.66) |
| Mr. A. Hipperson | Mr. J.W. Turrell |
| Mr. J.H. Johnson | Mr. H.C. Walden |
| Mr. J.W. Kellingray | Mr. S.F.L. Warner (died 24.5.67) |
| Mrs. E.M. Neville | Mr. R.R. Wilde |
| Mr. J. Nourse | Mr. E.J. Wright |

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members of the Committee.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health:-

DR. J. McD. HANLEY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.

Local Health Office, The Howdale, Downham Market.

Tel. Downham Market 3241.

also holds appointments of:-

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.

School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer of Health, Downham Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Marshland Rural District Council.

Senior Public Health Inspector:-

G.S. SENNITT, M.A.P.H.I., M.I.P.H.E., A.R.S.H.

Tel. Downham Market 3287. Residence D.M. 3364.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:-

D.R. FORD, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

J.G.W. HURST, CERT. S.I.B.

Clerk to the Health Department:-

MISS S. COX.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:-

R.E. HANLON.

DOWNHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee,

I have the honour to present my report for the year ending December 31st 1966.

Births There were 445 live births.
 The corrected birth rate was 18.44.

Deaths There were 216 deaths.
 The corrected death rate was 10.33.

Births and Deaths accorded to your area in the last five years are shown in the table below:-

| | <u>Births</u> | <u>Deaths</u> |
|------|---------------|---------------|
| 1962 | 452 | 211 |
| 1963 | 445 | 195 |
| 1964 | 483 | 204 |
| 1965 | 479 | 221 |
| 1966 | 445 | 216 |

County Health Service

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and local authority staff in my area during 1966.

Smallpox Vaccination

| Primary vaccination | | Total | Revaccination | | Total |
|---------------------|--------|-------|---------------|--------|-------|
| Under 5 | 5 - 15 | 300 | Under 5 | 5 - 15 | 44 |
| 265 | 35 | | 4 | 40 | |

Tetanus

| Primary Courses | | Total | Reinforcing Doses | | Total |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 647 | Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 1125 |
| 601 | 46 | | 623 | 502 | |

Whooping Cough

| Primary Courses | | Total | Reinforcing Doses | | Total |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 567 | Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 279 |
| 566 | 1 | | 269 | 10 | |

Diphtheria

| Primary Courses | | Total | Reinforcing Doses | | Total |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 619 | Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 1092 |
| 600 | 19 | | 626 | 466 | |

Poliomyelitis

| Primary Courses | | Total | Reinforcing Doses | | Total |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 657 | Under 7 | 7 - 15 | 434 |
| 635 | 22 | | 376 | 58 | |

B.C.G. Vaccination

| Number given the preliminary skin test | Number vaccinated | Number referred for chest X-ray |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 389 | 362 | 2 |

B.C.G. Vaccination

There has been a good response by parents.

Again the small number of possible infections demonstrates the good health of our community.

Immunisations - Are at a satisfactory level.

Within the past three months I have acquired an audiometer, that is, an electronic device for measuring loss of hearing. All school children born in 1960 and next year, 1961, are subjects for examination. Many ear defects are being found which could otherwise have passed unnoticed or undiagnosed. I consider that this work is of the utmost importance and its inauguration in our area is a landmark in preventive medicine which we will have good reason to remember with gratitude in the future.

After the successful pilot scheme in health education last year at Terrington and West Walton I have been asked to provide more courses at other secondary schools.

Although I consider that this is very important work I find difficulty in expanding it because of lack of suitably qualified staff.

When help can be obtained I will expand our health education scheme as much as possible and ensure a continuous service to our secondary schools.

I would like to record my appreciation for the assistance and support I have had during the year from the Clerk, Public Health Inspectors and members of the Local Health Office staff.

J. McD. Hanley,
Medical Officer of Health.

| Name of the person | Rank | Remarks |
|--------------------|------|---------|
| 1 | 1st | ... |

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Section A.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Live Births | 445 |
| Rate per 1,000 population | 18.44 |
| Ditto for Administrative County | 16.19 |
| Ditto for England and Wales | 17.7 |
| Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births .. | 6.52 |
| Deaths (all causes) | 216 |
| Rate per 1,000 population | 10.33 |
| Ditto for Administrative County | 991 |
| Ditto for England and Wales | 11.7 |
| Still Births | 12 |
| Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births | 26.25 |
| Ditto for Administrative County | 15.62 |
| Ditto for England and Wales | 15.4 |
| Total Live and Still Births ,. . . . | 457 |
| Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) | 4 |
| Infant Mortality Rates | |
| Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births | 8.98 |
| Ditto for Administrative County | 15.71 |
| Ditto for England and Wales | 19.0 |
| Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births .. | 9.61 |
| Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | NIL |
| Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate | |
| (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births) | 4.49 |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate | |
| (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births) | 6.74 |
| Peri-Natal Mortality Rate | |
| (Still Births and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births) | 30.63 |
| Maternal Mortality (including Abortion) | |
| Number of Deaths | NIL |
| Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births | NIL |

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS - 1966

| | |
|--|----------|
| Number of Parishes..... | 33 |
| Area (in acres)..... | 124,152 |
| Population, 1931 (Census)..... | 19,962 |
| Population, 1961 (Census)..... | 23,655 |
| Estimated Population, 1966..... | 25,090 |
| Estimated number of separate Dwellings | |
| occupied, 1966..... | 7,080 |
| Estimated Rateable Value at 1st April, 1966..... | £607,800 |
| Product of a Penny Rate, 1966-67..... | £2,395 |

Section B.

1. GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Norfolk Executive Council, 54, Prince of Wales Road, Norwich.
Clerk: F.H. Adams, Esq.

2. EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Senior Administrative Medical Officer: DR. J.B. EWEN, M.D., D.P.H.
Croft-Holme, 117, Chesterton Road, Cambridge.

(a) General

- (i) Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
- (ii) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.
- (iii) Jenny Lind Hospital, Norwich.
- (iv) St. James' Hospital, King's Lynn (for chronic sick)
- (v) The Howdale Home, Downham Market.

(b) Maternity

- (i) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital (Maternity Unit).
- (ii) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.
- (iii) Bowthorpe Maternity Hospital Wisbech.

(c) Infectious

- (i) County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham.
- (ii) Isolation Hospital, King's Lynn.
- (iii) Isolation Hospital, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

(d) Sanatoria

- (i) Kelling Sanatorium, Holt.

(e) Mental

- (i) St. Andrew's, Norwich.
- (ii) Hellesdon Hospital, Norwich.
- (iii) Little Plumstead, Norwich.

3. MATERNITY SERVICES.

(a) District Nurses (showing Parishes and Villages served):-

Nurse Fox, 2, London Road, Downham Market.

(Denver, Downham Market (excluding Salter's Lode and Stone Cross Estate) Downham West).

Nurse Waite, The Homestead, Brookville, Methwold.

(Feltwell, Hockwold, R.A.F. Feltwell).

Nurse Purdie, 29, Elm Place, Gooderstone.

(Barton Bendish)

Nurse Hunns, Stoke Ferry Road, Methwold, Thetford.

(Methwold (including Wissington), Northwold).

Nurse Smith, Nurse's Cottage, Stow, King's Lynn.

(Wimbotsham, Stow, Wormegay, South Rington (including Holme, and Wallington with Thorpland), Stone Cross Estate, Barroway Drove).

Vacancy, Nurse's Home, Nordelph. (covered by Mrs. C. Perkins, St. Winnold Close, Downham Market.

(Nordelph, Outwell, Upwell (including Three Holes and Lakesend), Welney (including Tipsend), Salter's Lode (part Downham Market).

Nurse Harris, Nurse's House, Buckenham Drive, Stoke Ferry.

(Stoke Ferry, Marham and R.A.F. Marham).

Nurse Browne, Ploughcroft, Mill Road, Watlington.

(Wiggenhall St. Mary the Virgin, Wiggenhall St. Germans, (including St. Peter) Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, Watlington, Tottenhill, Tilney cum Islington (part Tilney St. Lawrence)).

Nurse P.A. Tuck, Nurse's House, Hilgay.
(Fordham, Southery, Hilgay (including Ten Mile Bank),
Ryston (including Bexwell and Roxham)).

Nurse Williams, 2, Queen's Close, Wereham.
(Crimpleham, West Dereham, Wereham, Boughton, Wretton,
Fincham, Shouldham Thorpe, Shouldham, Stradsett).

Nurse Greensitt, 10, Chapel Lane, West Winch. (Setch).

- (b) Maternity
Beds in Regional Hospital Board Establishments.

4. AMBULANCE AND HOSPITAL CAR SERVICES

This is a County Council function and is controlled by the Joint Ambulance Committee.

The Downham Rural Area is jointly served by the Downham Market, (Tel. Downham Market 2212) King's Lynn (Tel. King's Lynn 2721) and Thetford (Tel. Thetford 2194) Ambulances. Infectious Disease cases are conveyed by East Dereham and King's Lynn Infectious Disease Ambulances

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Local Health Office, 15, Nelson Street, King's Lynn. (Tel. King's Lynn 3503 and 3910).

5. RED CROSS AND ST. JOHN MEDICAL LOAN DEPOTS

- (a) Wiggenhall St. Germans - Mrs. Allen, The Chestnuts, St. Germans.
- (b) Marham - Mrs. Banwell, Kismet, Marham.
- (c) Downham Market - Mrs. I. Burbeck. Tel. Downham Market 2277.

6. COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES

- (a) Infant Welfare Centres.
 - (i) Downham Market.
 - (ii) Wimbotsham.
 - (iii) R.A.F. Marham.

The Assistant County Medical Officer of Health attends at the above Sessions.

In addition, Village Infant Welfare Centres are held monthly at the following villages - Methwold, Northwold, Southery, Shouldham, Wereham, Marham, Feltwell, and Watlington.

- (b) Home Help Service.

The County Home Help Scheme is doing excellent work and Home Helps are available for most parishes and villages.

7. VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.
Males: Tuesday and Fridays - 5.30 p.m.
Females and Children: Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 3 p.m.

8. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Treatment of premises and articles is carried out by the Senior Public Health Inspector's Staff.

9. LABORATORY SERVICES

- (a) Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.
Under the direction of Dr. I.M. Dowsett,
- (b) Public Analyst, Dr. Eric Wood, Ph.D., A.R.C.S.,
F.R.I.C., Clarence House, 6, Clarence Road, Norwich.
- (c) Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

SECTION C.
STATISTICAL TABLES, 1966

Causes of Death.

Table No.1.

| | <u>Causes of Death</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 9. | Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases..... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 10. | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach..... | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 11. | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus..... | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 13. | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus..... | - | 2 | 2 |
| 14. | Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms..... | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia..... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 16. | Diabetes..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 17. | Vascular Lesions of Nervous System..... | 18 | 20 | 38 |
| 18. | Coronary Disease, Angina..... | 33 | 13 | 46 |
| 19. | Hypertension with Heart Disease..... | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. | Other Heart Disease..... | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| 21. | Other Circulatory Disease..... | 8 | 7 | 15 |
| 22. | Influenza..... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 23. | Pneumonia..... | 10 | 4 | 14 |
| 24. | Bronchitis..... | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 25. | Other Diseases of Respiratory System..... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 26. | Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of Prostate..... | 3 | - | 3 |
| 31. | Congenital Malformations..... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 32. | Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases..... | 7 | 9 | 16 |
| 33. | Motor Vehicle Accidents..... | 5 | - | 5 |
| 34. | Suicide..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Total All Causes..... | | 125 | 91 | 216 |

Table No. 2.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1966
Notification in Age Groups

| | AGES | | | | | | | | | | | | | TOTAL | Removed to Hospital | Deaths |
|---------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------|---------------------|--------|
| | Under 1 | 1- | 2- | 3- | 4- | 5- | 10- | 15- | 20- | 35- | 45- | 65- | Age Un-known | | | |
| MEASLES | 3 | 12 | 19 | 26 | 17 | 62 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 145 | - | - |
| PNEUMONIA | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | - | - |
| SCARLET FEVER | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | - |
| DYSENTERY | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| TOTALS | 3 | 12 | 19 | 27 | 17 | 66 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | 154 | - | - |

WHOOPING COUGH, INFECTIVE JAUNDICE, OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, ERYSIPELAS, NON-PARA POLIO, FOOD POISONING, MENINGITIS, ENCEPHALITIS, DIPHTHERIA, PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No cases recorded.

Table No. 3.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1966
(Other than Tuberculosis)

| DISEASE | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| MEASLES | 4 | 2 | 29 | 20 | - | 9 | 24 | 15 | 21 | 17 | 1 | 3 | 145 |
| PNEUMONIA | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| SCARLET FEVER | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 4 |
| DYSENTERY | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| TOTALS | 7 | 3 | 29 | 22 | - | 9 | 24 | 16 | 22 | 17 | 1 | 4 | 154 |

WHOOPING COUGH, INFECTIVE JAUNDICE, OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, ERYSIPELAS, NON-PARA POLIO, FOOD POISONING, MENINGITIS, ENCEPHALITIS, DIPHTHERIA, PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No cases recorded.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS - 1966

1 male age 25-35 - Respiratory.

There were no deaths from the disease.

Section D

Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to report on the work of the Council in the sphere of public health during 1966.

The District was divided for routine administrative purposes between the two additional inspectors, Mr. Hurst dealing with the northern portion and Mr. Ford the southern, although special surveys were undertaken by all members of the Department. It was possible to increase substantially the number of visits to various establishments. The student public health inspector, Mr. R. Hanlon, continued his studies and successfully passed his first year examination.

The main public health problem for many years ahead will be that of the proper disposal of sewage, and improvements to the refuse collection and disposal service are worthy of urgent consideration.

The control of new buildings is another most important task with public health implications, particularly in regard to drainage which is administered by your Surveyor's Department, and the coming into operation of the new National Building Regulations in February, 1966 in place of local byelaws, will bring many improvements. New materials and methods with their accompanying Codes of Practice do need considerable study, and the interpretation of the various new provisions is an exacting task.

In spite of the energetic action of your Council during the last 12 years, there are still hundreds of houses in the District which are quite unfit for habitation, and the need to remedy this will, as far as I can see, involve the regular allocation of a proportion of new Council housing over many years.

I thank the Council and my colleagues for continued support and understanding, and in particular Miss S. Cox, the Clerk/Typist in the Department for her valuable work and ability to cope with male idiosyncrasies.

Summary of Visits

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Water Supply | 9 |
| Drainage | 986 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 303 |
| Rodent Control | 8 |
| Atmospheric Pollution | 19 |
| Petroleum | 35 |
| Moveable Dwellings | 185 |
| Factories | 9 |
| Housing | 1825 |
| Piggeries | 7 |
| Street Naming and Numbering | 906 |
| Animal Boarding Establishments | 13 |
| Shops and Offices Act | 65 |
| Schools | 3 |
| Infectious Disease | 5 |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits | 349 |
| Mobile Shops | 7 |
| Food Preparing Premises | 6 |
| Bake-houses | 2 |
| Fried Fish Shops | 13 |
| Miscellaneous Food | 34 |
| Ice Cream Premises | 6 |
| Grocers | 33 |
| Dairies and Milk Distributors | 14 |
| Restaurants | 3 |
| Slaughterhouses | 6 |
| Meat Inspection | 514 |
| Butchers | 25 |
| Licensed Premises | 7 |
| Total | <u>5397</u> |

1962 - 3154 1963 - 3105 1964 - 2859 1965 - 4587

It should be noted that only the primary purpose of each visit is recorded to give the monthly and annual Report statistics. Enquiry is often made on matters covered by several Acts of Parliament at one premises.

e.g. A Slaughterhouse is also a "Factory", a food preparation premises, meat inspection is carried out there and of course rats, mice and flies etc., have to be kept down. In addition, regulations as to the prevention of cruelty have to be observed.

COMPLAINTS AND NUISANCES

207 complaints were entered in the Register, investigated and dealt with (231 in 1965)

60% of the complaints were of unsatisfactory drainage, whilst the rest related to housing defects, smells from accumulations of refuse, manure, keeping of animals and insect pests.

The large poultry manure drying plant at Methwold Fen was completed at the end of October. It was reported to be capable of producing 250 tons of dried fertiliser per week.

Due to operational difficulties, the plant only functioned for periods of one to three hours at a time until the end of the year, but it is most disappointing to record that complaints of smell reached the office in increasing numbers.

NOTICES SERVED

The number of written notices other than Housing Act Notices served during the year was 71, classified as follows:-

| | Informal (Letters) | Statutory | Complied with | Complied with Notices served during previous years |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|---|
| Housing Repairs | 19 | 1 | 13 | 13 |
| Drainage and Sanitation | 22 | - | 17 | 4 |
| Food Premises | 3 | - | 2 | 9 |
| Miscellaneous | 25 | - | 16 | 7 |
| Moveable Dwellings | 2 | - | 2 | 6 |
| Totals | 71 | 1 | 50 | 39 |

In addition, verbal notice was sufficient in numerous cases to bring about the improvements required, or to secure the abatement of nuisances.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) General

Considerable attention was given to food hygiene; inspections were frequently made in conjunction with those under the Offices, Shops etc. Act.

The conditions to be observed are specified in the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960 and the Council's Clean Food Byelaws. Most of the shops in the area are attached to dwelling houses, and staff are allowed the use of the facilities at the house. As far as is known, all shops are provided with sinks and washbasins, and either cold water or hot and cold water as required.

Important New Regulations in connection with sale of food in outdoor markets, mobile shops etc. were made during the year, and were due to operate from 1st January, 1967.

The County Council's staff made 39 inspections of school canteens at 15 schools in the area. Conditions were considered satisfactory, and only two tins of food were condemned due to damage.

At 31st December, there were operating from within the District:-

- 10 Fish and Chip Shops (including 3 mobile units)
- 3 Bakehouses
- 17 Butchers Shops
- 4 Licensed Slaughterhouses
- 5 Cafes
- 64 Licensed Houses including 5 clubs
- 90 General Food Shops
- 4 Shops selling sweets and lemonade including 1 club
- 2 Factory Canteens
- 1 Chemist
- 5 Mobile General Shops
- 1 Flour Depot
- 1 Bread and Confectionery Distribution Depot

(b) Ice-cream

3 new premises were registered, and 94 premises were selling ice-cream including fruit ices, all of it being prepared and pre-packed by the large companies. No manufacture of ice-cream is carried on in the District.

(c) Slaughterhouses

Four private slaughterhouses were licensed and in use during the year, one each in the parishes of Stoke Ferry, Feltwell, Methwold and Stow Bridge.

There can be absolutely no relaxation in regard to hygiene at these establishments. In each case, a butcher's business is carried on, and sausages are made by the same personnel!

No meat was "exported" to other areas.

(d) Slaughtermen

At 31st December, there were 18 licensed slaughtermen in the District.

Slaughtermen have to be at least 18 years of age, and also "fit and proper persons" to hold a licence, which lasts for up to one year. Certain persons do not practice, but continue to hold a licence.

The licence specifies the kinds of animal which may be slaughtered or stunned, and the types of instrument which may be used, and also enables the holder to slaughter in other Districts (except in the case of slaughter of horses).

(e) Meat Inspection

100% post mortem inspection of beef, mutton and pig carcasses was carried out, with occasional ante-mortem inspections.

100% inspection by qualified personnel to a detailed code is now a legal requirement. The Council is authorised to make a charge for Meat Inspection Services, but no charge is made. To aid Authorities to secure 100% inspection, the Meat Inspection Regulations were amended as from 30th September, 1966 so as to allow them to control, after consultation with slaughterers, the hours of slaughter in private slaughterhouses if thought necessary. No action was considered necessary in the Council's District.

Evening visits are generally confined to two a week. Again no tuberculosis was found in cattle, and only one case of cysticercosis.

Only prime animals are slaughtered in this District. The incidence of disease found in larger slaughterhouses receiving cows and other animals, including emergency slaughter cases is, of course, very much higher.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART DURING THE YEAR

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Goats |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Number killed | 793 | - | - | 1457 | 1950 | - |
| Number inspected | 793 | - | - | 1457 | 1950 | - |
| All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 40 | - | - | 10 | 87 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 5.04% | - | - | 0.68% | 4.45% | - |
| | 5.04% | - | - | 0.68% | 4.45% | - |
| Tuberculosis only | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | 25 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | - | - | - | - | 1.28% | - |
| Cysticercosis | | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Condemned Meat (Weight)

| | | | |
|----------------|----|----|------------------|
| Beasts | | | lbs. |
| Head and Offal | .. | .. | 548 |
| Carcass Meat | .. | .. | - |
| Pigs | | | |
| Head and Offal | .. | .. | 578 |
| Carcass Meat | .. | .. | - |
| Sheep | | | |
| Offal | .. | .. | 39 |
| Carcass Meat | .. | .. | - |
| Total | | | <u>1165 lbs.</u> |

(f) Condemned Food

In addition to the fresh meat above, the following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

50 lbs. brisket of beef
300 lbs. topside of beef
20 lbs. beef liver
33 lbs. pork
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. pig liver
2 Tins lamb's liver
30 lbs. calve's liver

(g) Registration of Premises for the Preparation of Sausages, etc.

15 butchers premises were registered throughout the year, and it was not necessary to take any formal action.

(h) Food Contamination

No complaints were received during the year. A close watch is kept on the composition of food by the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority, and regular reports are supplied to the Department.

(i) Milk and Dairies

This Council is responsible for the Registration of milk distributors based within the district only, and also of any premises used by them for the treatment, storage and distribution of milk. In all cases, milk is supplied from the large dairies, and the containers are unopened by the distributor. In several cases, orange juice is also sold.

7 Distributors are registered and 3 dairies.

Your Medical Officer of Health, however, has certain overall powers with regard to infection of milk at all premises where milk is handled, including farms. No action was necessary during the year. All Milk Producers require to be registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The County Council is responsible for the licencing of Designated Milk Producers. The present designations authorised are as follows:-

1. 'Untreated'
2. 'Pasteurised'
3. 'Sterilised'
4. 'Ultra Heat Treated'

All 'Untreated Milk' is, of course, tuberculin tested in this Country.

Tests of milk from this Council's district taken by the County Council's staff in 1966 gave the following results:-

Biological Sampling

In all, 17 samples representing the 5 producer/retailers' supplies were submitted for biological examination and of these 16 proved satisfactory, whilst the premature death of a guinea pig rendered the remaining examination inconclusive. The fall in the number of samples taken during the year is due to the fact that two of the producer/retailers ceased supplying schools in the area with "Untreated" milk, whilst another has ceased retailing.

Methylene Blue Examinations (raw milk)

12 samples were submitted for this test and of these 9 were satisfactory and three failed the examination.

Methylene Blue Examinations (pasteurised milk)

Of the 24 samples submitted for this test, all proved satisfactory except 3 which were rendered void by the overnight temperature exceeding 70°F.

Phosphatase Examinations (pasteurised milk)

All 24 samples submitted for this test proved satisfactory.

Turbidity Test (sterilised milk)

Two samples of milk submitted for this test proved satisfactory.

Brucellosis

In July, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries announced an outline scheme of eradication for this disease to operate over a period of years. This would serve the interests of human and animal health, improve agricultural productivity and enable the country to maintain and increase exports of live-stock. The first essential was to build up a register of brucella-free herds on a voluntary basis to provide a reservoir of disease-free replacements. When the voluntary response was large enough, eradication would be carried out, area by area, in which all animals reacting to diagnostic tests would be slaughtered with payment of compensation. Various aspects of the plan were to be discussed with interested bodies, and in fact there was a good deal of discussion by the end of the year, notably on the question of possible compulsory vaccination of calves, prohibition of transfer of diseased animals, and a time table for such a scheme.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1936, operating in the District.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The District still had the highest number of fully residential caravans in the County, according to a survey carried out during the first week in August - 222, which was 19 less than in 1965. It is hoped that this trend will continue as a caravan is considered to be a poor substitute for a permanent house.

The relatively few holiday caravans were mainly occupied by fishermen for short periods. Tents are often erected on river banks for short periods, but there are no permanent tented sites.

11 site licences including renewals covering 31 caravans were issued during the year. Together with licences issued in previous years, a total of 62 sites covering 226 caravans were licenced. Many occupied caravans are exempt from licencing, but a certain amount of trouble was experienced due to unauthorised sites being used.

The Council's licence conditions are comprehensive, one set applying to sites of up to 5 caravans, and a more comprehensive set applying on sites above this number.

The largest sites are situated as follows:-

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Marham | - 2 sites, one for 52 and one for 10 caravans |
| Feltwell | - 42 caravans |
| Shouldham | - 2 sites, one for 11 and one for 10 caravans |

The licensed sites are generally clean and tidy, but inspections show that conditions are not always observed, particularly in regard to fire precautions. The importance of this aspect is always emphasised.

In a circular issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in June, the results were given of a survey of itinerate van dwellers carried out by all local authorities in March 1965. This revealed a most unsatisfactory state of affairs involving about 3,400 families covering 15,000 Gypsies and other travelling people, and local authorities including County Councils were urged to take various steps to deal with planning, health, welfare, education and housing problems which arise. Occasional small problems arise in this Council's district, but no urgent action has been considered necessary.

No prosecutions were necessary during the year.

HOUSING

(a) Housing Acts and Council Housing

36 dwellings, mainly bungalows were completed during the year, and these were for slum clearance needs. At the end of the year none were being constructed, although an early start was to be made on 16 at Wimbotsham and 4 at Wereham.

The clearance of unfit houses proceeded satisfactorily, and 22 families were rehoused from such houses. The results of action taken are recorded for each Parish in a table following. It was necessary for the Council to arrange demolition of 7 houses during the year due to default by two owners.

On 1st November, a copy of a Report entitled 'Our Older Homes - A Call for Action' was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The Report surveyed a wide range of problems affecting older houses and their environment. It included recommendations on standards, and proposals for making better use of houses worth retaining and for clearing unfit houses more quickly. Matters requiring further investigation were set out, and the need for more detailed information about older houses stressed.

The Ministry were to study the report and invited local authorities to do the same pending consultation.

The report gives particular importance to bad environmental conditions, and it is suggested that there are such conditions affecting the central areas of the Parishes of Hilgay and Wereham in particular. Perhaps the matter can be studied in conjunction with the County Planning Authority.

32 Pre-war Council houses were modernised during the year by the addition of bath, lavatory basins and W.Cs., hot and cold water supplies, drainage systems and fuel stores. A further 54 homes were being improved at the end of the year.

12 Discretionary Grants were approved and 56 Standard Grants, figures for previous years being:-

| | | | | | |
|------|---|-----------|------|---|-----------|
| 1962 | - | 22 and 40 | 1964 | - | 11 and 39 |
| 1963 | - | 10 and 41 | 1965 | - | 18 and 56 |

(b) Rent Act, 1957

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and no applications for cancellation of existing Certificates.

(c) Waiting List

On 13th March, 1967 there were 655 individual applications for accommodation registered as against 498 in 1963 and 301 in 1955.

65 applications, however, related to transfers by the Council house tenants to larger or smaller accommodation. 108 applications were from people living outside the District.

The Parishes of Denver, Wimbotsham and Stoke Ferry had most applications in that order (60, 58 and 54).

(d) Summary of Council Dwellings at 31st December, 1966

Traditional Houses

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| (a) Pre-war | 420 |
| Post-war | 952 |

Pre-fabricated Permanent Houses

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| (Aireys and Swedish) | 76 |
|------------------------------|----|

Other Properties

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Downham Market | 6 | |
| Stoke Ferry | 3 | (Cottages) |
| Nordelph | 2 | (Cottages) |
| Denver | 9 | (Cottages, 4 unoccupied) |
| Barton Bendish | 6 | (Cottages, 1 unoccupied) |
| Methwold | 8 | (All flats) |

Total: 1482

(e) Private Enterprise Housing

116 permanent houses and bungalows were completed during the year and 76 were under construction. Figures for 1964-121 and 60, 1965-117 and 149.

HOUSING ACT ACTION

(f)

1st January to 31st December, 1966

| | Demolition Orders made | Closing Orders made | Undertakings not to relet accepted | Unfit Dwellings Vol. Demolished | Unfit Dwellings Demolished Formal action | Unfit Dwellings repaired Formal action | Unfit Dwellings purchased | Cat. 5 Dwellings still to be dealt with |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| Barton Bendish..... | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 9 |
| Boughton..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Crimplesham..... | - | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 |
| Denver..... | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| Dereham West..... | 5 | 5 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 3 |
| Downham West | | | | | | | | |
| incl. Salters Lode..... | 3 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 7 |
| Feltwell..... | 1 | 5 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 9 |
| Fincham..... | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 10 |
| Fordham..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Hilgay | | | | | | | | |
| incl. Ten Mile Bank..... | 9 | - | - | - | 13 | 2 | - | 29 |
| Hockwold..... | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 4 |
| Marham..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Methwold..... | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 6 |
| Nordelph..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| Northwold..... | - | 1 | - | - | 11 | 1 | - | 10 |
| Runcton Holme..... | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Ryston incl. Stone X..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Shouldham..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| Shouldham Thorpe..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Southery..... | 16 | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 6 |
| Stoke Ferry..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Stow Bardolph..... | - | - | - | - | 4 | 1 | - | 10 |
| Stradsett..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tottenhill..... | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Watlington..... | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Welney..... | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 6 |
| Wereham..... | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | 13 |
| Wiggenhall St. Germans..... | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 5 |
| Wigg. St. Mary Magdalen..... | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 9 |
| Wigg. St. Mary the Virgin..... | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 4 |
| Wimbotsham..... | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| Wormegay..... | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Wretton..... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Totals: | 41 | 13 | - | 3 | 43 | 13 | - | 221 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Figures for 1965 | 46 | 25 | - | 37 | 30 | 11 | - | 197 |
| -do- 1964 | 31 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 35 | 2 | 0 | 180 |
| -do- 1963 | 42 | 16 | 1 | 8 | 28 | 10 | 4 | 191 |
| -do- 1962 | 29 | 37 | 5 | 7 | 26 | 6 | 0 | 220 |
| -do- 1961 | 20 | 20 | 2 | 2 | 36 | 8 | 0 | 318 |
| -do- 1960 | 54 | 32 | 1 | 12 | 49 | 4 | 0 | 337 |
| -do- 1959 | 39 | 37 | 14 | 9 | 27 | 11 | 6 | 374 |
| -do- 1958 | 35 | 26 | 6 | 9 | 30 | 11 | 4 | 445 |

N.B. The number of Cat. 5 houses rose as a result of re-classification.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal

The system of "kerbside" collection continued throughout the district on a once fortnightly basis. The Karrier 25 and 18 cub.yd. dual tipping collection vehicles continued in service whilst the old Karrier Moving Floor machine was disposed of after the delivery of the Dennis Paxit 24 cub.yd. mechanical packing vehicle in September. Two machines are used full time and one machine two to three days per week. All three machines are normally staffed by a driver/loader and two loaders.

Staffing was difficult at the beginning of the year due to sickness, but schedules were maintained even at holiday times, and complaints were very few apart from the usual one that a weekly service is desirable.

I was asked to look into the question of utilising the paper sack system of collection and made a full report in July, the conclusion being that the system was an excellent one from an operational and hygienic standpoint, but it would be relatively expensive and would necessarily involve a weekly "back-door" collection.

I was asked to study developments, but unfortunately the 'period of severe restraint' in financial matters was proclaimed and the matter was left for future consideration.

As regards refuse disposal, partly controlled tipping utilising a tractor shovel is practised, and soil cover is taken to the tips situated at Wormegay, Fincham, Ten Mile Bank, Northwold, Methwold and Whittington. A tip at Feltwell was closed during the year, and use of a tip at Methwold Hythe was commenced.

It was necessary to fit a new foreloader boom to the Council's tractor during the year, and consideration will have to be given to a replacement unit of more powerful and robust construction before long.

The question of disposal of old car bodies was again discussed during the year, but no definite arrangements had been made in regard to co-ordinated action in Norfolk by the end of the year.

(b) Pail Emptying

The closets were emptied once weekly during the daytime in the Parishes of Hilgay, Denver, Downham West and Fincham. The Council's cesspool emptier, which is fitted with a special hopper, is used.

Most of the pail contents were disposed of on straw composting bays on farm land, and the rest was applied direct to arable land.

(c) Cesspool Emptying

The Council's 1,000 gallon cesspool emptying vehicle continued in service and was available two days a week for the emptying of cesspools and the desludging of the Council's smaller sewage treatment plants.

As a result of representations, the service given by the contracting firm to carry out the bulk of the work on private cesspools and septic tanks considerably improved, and service was normally given within a week of an order.

There was again an increase in the number of units serviced as a result of the provision of bathrooms and W.Cs. in unsewered areas.

No. of cesspools emptied:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Tovey Transport Ltd.</u> | <u>Council</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1960 | 230 | 408 | 638 |
| 1961 | 466 | 312 | 778 |
| 1962 | 607 | 289 | 896 |
| 1963 | 672 | 345 | 1017 |
| 1964 | 783 | 257 | 1040 |
| 1965 | 898 | 255 | 1153 |
| 1966 | 1031 | 325 | 1356 |

Sewage Plants and Special Tanks Emptied

| | | | |
|------|---|-----|-----|
| 1960 | - | 93 | 93 |
| 1961 | 2 | 58 | 60 |
| 1962 | 1 | 76 | 77 |
| 1963 | - | 61 | 61 |
| 1964 | - | 69 | 69 |
| 1965 | - | 110 | 110 |
| 1966 | - | 114 | 114 |

From the 1st May, the charge of £1 to cover the first two loads and 10/- for each additional load was reduced to a flat rate of 12/6d. per unit.

The disposal of cesspool contents is mostly to arable farm land and refuse tips, and every effort is made to avoid nuisance arising.

It was agreed that the isolated Lodge Road refuse tip at Feltwell which was full should be used for the purpose, and a fee of £10 per annum was to be paid to the Parish Council for the facility.

The disposal of sewage sludge is a problem which will require increasing attention and much capital outlay in the future.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The main sewage treatment plants at Southery and Feltwell and the Housing Site plants throughout the District were maintained regularly by your Surveyor's Department, and no particular problems arose during the year.

The work on the new plant at Fordham to treat the sewage from Denver and Hilgay proceeded satisfactorily along with the laying of sewers in Denver. The preparation of a village scheme for Barton Bendish and preliminary work on schemes for three other drainage areas was also being undertaken by the County Public Health Engineer's Department.

Surveys were conducted by the Public Health Department to find out the number of properties not connected to the sewers in Feltwell and Southery and the Department were asked to intensify efforts to secure improvements.

Periodical cleansing of 'sewerage' dykes to minimise nuisance was carried out, and extra sub-irrigation drains were installed on numerous troublesome septic tanks at Council sites by your own staff.

More flooding took place in Shouldham during the year, and efforts to find a satisfactory and economic solution continued.

NAMING OF STREETS AND NUMBERING OF HOUSES

The naming and numbering of streets in Feltwell was completed early in the year, and surveys were completed in the Parishes of Methwold and Northwold. A start had been made at Denver

Such surveys are, as far as possible, made to yield statistics and information of use to the Department in public health work.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Close supervision is maintained in regard to the maintenance of safe conditions at Petrol Filling Stations, both public and private, in the District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50

No burials were carried out by the Council during the year.

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957

Administration of this Order is delegated to the Council by the County Council.

Only 1 person was collecting swill as far as is known. Proper sterilisation of this swill is highly important in preventing the spread of Animal disease.

OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL, WAR MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD, DOWNHAM MARKET

There were no complaints of smell or eye irritation etc. arising from the normal use of the pool during the season and generally the water was maintained in a clear and sparkling condition.

On one occasion, however, the water commenced to take on a green tinge which indicated algal growth, and this could not be cleansed by repeated backwashing of the filter. An adequate residual of "free chlorine" had at all times been maintained.

The problem was resolved, however, by use of the coagulant 'Alumino-Ferric', and a small supply of this chemical will be kept for such use in future.

THE ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act requires any person keeping a boarding establishment for cats or dogs to obtain a licence from the Local Authority. The licence must specify such conditions as will ensure hygienic conditions, adequate supplies of food and drink and protection against fire or other emergency.

Four establishments (at Methwold, Stoke Ferry, Marham and Runcton Holme) were licenced during the year. Licences expire at the end of the year to which they relate.

THE SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

All dealers trading in the District and their premises have to be registered with the Council, and registration is for periods of up to three years.

At the end of the year there were 11 registrations in force.

THE OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in shops, offices, and railway premises. The requirements of the Act follow closely those of the Factories Act and include provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, seats, safety of machinery, first aid and fire precautions.

By reason of the diverse business activities carried on in this district, a large number of premises come under the supervision of the Factories Inspector. In addition, many businesses are outside control because they are family affairs. The domestic facilities at adjoining houses are usually at the disposal of shopworkers.

34 visits were made under the Act.

At 31st December, the Position was as follows:-

| TABLE A REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS | TOTALS | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| | Offices | - | 10 | 5 |
| | Retail shops | - | 55 | 7 |
| | Wholesale shops, warehouses | - | 3 | - |
| | Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | - | 3 | - |
| | Fuel Storage depots | - | 5 | - |
| | (1) Class of premises | (2) Number of premises registered during the year | (3) Total Number of registered premises at end of year | (4) Number of registered premises receiving a general in- spection during the year |

| <p>TABLE C ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE</p> | Class of workplace | Number of persons employed |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) |
| | Offices | 23 |
| | Retail Shops | 113 |
| | Wholesale departments, warehouses | 17 |
| | Catering establishments open to the public | 12 |
| | Canteens | - |
| | Fuel Storage Depots | 6 |
| | Total | 171 |
| | Total Males | 71 |
| | Total Females | 100 |

The response to letters requiring compliance with various provisions of the Act was good, and it was not necessary to recommend my formal action.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Main Piped Supplies

General

The District is well served by water mains, and the number of properties not able to have mains water is now very low. Quite a large number, however, are supplied by standpipes, and many terraces have joint standpipes. The policy of the Council is to require water to be provided in pipes inside the house whenever reasonable and practicable.

The Wisbech and District Water Board were responsible for two sources of supply to the Rural District viz., the northern half from the River Nar and bore at Marham and the southern half from the bore at Denton Lodge, Feltwell.

I am indebted to the Board's Engineer and Manager, Mr. C. Llanwarne, B.Sc. Tech., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., for the following information:-

Water Analyses 1966 - Rural District of Downham

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1966 on samples from the Board's sourceworks and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard. Many chemical analyses have also been carried out.

All new mains were sterilised, samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of the highest standard of purity.

The water supplied by the Board to Downham Rural District is not plumbo-solvent.

There were no cases of contamination of the water supply in Downham Rural District during 1966.

WISEBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Water Analyses 1966 - Rural District of Downham

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANALYSES

| <u>Samples Taken</u> <u>Board's Works</u> | <u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Taken</u> | <u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Negative</u> | <u>Bacteriological Examinations</u> | |
|--|---|--|--|--------------------------|
| | | | <u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Positive</u> | <u>Chemical Analyses</u> |
| Raw Waters | 213 | 201 | 12 | |
| Treated Waters | 676 | 676 | - | |
| Taps (Consumers) | 180 | 180 | - | |
| Totals | 1,069 | 1,057 | 12 | 141 |

Total of all examinations and analyses = 1,210.

Out of the total of treated water samples and samples taken from consumers' taps 100% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a continued very high standard of bacterial purity.

J.S. COLLINS.
Chemist and Bacteriologist.

25th January, 1967.

WISBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

WATER EXAMINATION LABORATORY

ANALYSIS OF WATER SAMPLE

Received 8th December, 1966. Lab. No. N.1692

From Distribution System off Marham Pumping Station.

Labelled Tap, Laboratory, 12 South Brink, Wisbech.

Taken by J.S. Collins. Date and Time 8.12.66 2.20.p.m.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Appearance Clear and Bright pH. 7.1

Turbidity (units) Nil Odour Nil

Colour (Hazen units) Nil Taste Nil

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Free carbon dioxide 23.7 Aluminium (Al) Nil

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C 0.20 Calcium (Ca) 103.8

Ammoniacal nitrogen Nil Iron (Fe) 0.002

Albuminoid nitrogen 0.02 Magnesium (Mg) 3.13

Nitrate nitrogen 8.3 Manganese (Mn) Nil

Nitrite nitrogen Nil Lead (Pb) Nil

Alkalinity as CaCO₃ 210 Sodium (Na) Not examined

Hardness as CaCO₃: Zinc (Zn) Nil

Total 272 Silica (SiO₂) 7.0

Carbonate (Temporary) 210 Sulphate (SO₄) 44.7

Non-carbonate (permanent) 62 Carbonate (CO₃) 126

Residual chlorine 0.15 Chloride (Cl) 30.5

Total solids, dried at 180°C 380 Fluoride (F) 0.05

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hours at 37°C 0

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72 hours at 20° - 22°C 0

Coliform count per 100 ml. 0

Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. 0

REPORT

The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character. It is suitable both chemically and bacteriologically as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

J.S. Collins

Chemist and Bacteriologist.

Date: 11th January, 1967.

WISBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

WATER EXAMINATION LABORATORY

ANALYSIS OF WATER SAMPLE

Received 12.15 p.m. 30th December, 1966 Lab. No. N.1830
From Denton Lodge Pumping Station
Labelled Denton Lodge Raw Water
Taken by M. Green Date and Time 30.12.66 10.45.a.m.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Appearance | <u>Clear and Bright</u> | pH. | <u>7.2</u> |
| Turbidity (units) | <u>Nil</u> | Odour | <u>Nil</u> |
| Colour (Hazen units) | <u>Nil</u> | Taste | <u>Not tasted (raw water)</u> |

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Free carbon dioxide | <u>14.3</u> | Aluminium (Al) | <u>Nil</u> |
| Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C | <u>0.04</u> | Calcium (Ca) | <u>70</u> |
| Ammoniacal nitrogen | <u>Nil</u> | Iron (Fe) | <u>Nil</u> |
| Albuminoid nitrogen | <u>0.002</u> | Magnesium (Mg) | <u>3.48</u> |
| Nitrate nitrogen | <u>5.2</u> | Manganese (Mn) | <u>Nil</u> |
| Nitrite nitrogen | <u>Nil</u> | Lead (Pb) | <u>Nil</u> |
| Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | <u>165</u> | Sodium (Na) | <u>Not examined</u> |
| Hardness as CaCO ₃ : | | Zinc (Zn) | <u>Nil</u> |
| Total | <u>188</u> | Silica (SiO ₂) | <u>8.0</u> |
| Carbonate (Temporary) | <u>165</u> | Sulphate (SO ₄) | <u>13.0</u> |
| Non-carbonate (permanent) | <u>23</u> | Carbonate (CO ₃) | <u>99.0</u> |
| Residual chlorine | <u>Nil</u> | Chloride (Cl) | <u>13.5</u> |
| Total solids, dried at 180°C | <u>244</u> | Fluoride (F) | <u>0.05</u> |

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hours at 37°C 0
Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72 hours at 20° - 22°C 0
Coliform count per 100 ml. 0
Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. 0

REPORT

The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character which will be suitable, after precautionary chlorination, as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

J.S. Collins
Chemist and Bacteriologist.

Date: 11th January, 1967.

Schedule of Mainlaying Work carried out in the Downham
Rural District between 1st January and 31st December, 1966

1966

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| March to December | 18" Main - Beechamwell to Bexwell | 233 yards 4" P.V.C. 9,402 yards 18" A.C. |
| March | Housing Site off Mill Road, Watlington | 106 yards 3" P.V.C. |
| " | Housing Site Turners Close, Wimbotsham | 246 yards 3" P.V.C. |
| June | Housing Site, Runcton Holme | 226 yards 3" P.V.C. |
| November to December | Little Lane, Stoke Ferry | 189 yards 4" P.V.C. |
| December | Barker Bros. Housing Site, Shouldham | 160 yards 4" P.V.C. |

25th January, 1967.

SMALL WATER SUPPLIES

Two samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, and both proved unsatisfactory. Advice and assistance was given to several more people in matters concerning such supplies.

Two samples of well water used for infant feeding were sampled for nitrate content during the year by the County Public Health Department. Both proved satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Particulars on the Administration of the Act.

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Inspections (3) | Number of Written Notices (4) | Occupiers Prosecuted (5) |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 1 | - | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 66 | 19 | - | - |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). (These are building sites). | 39 | 17 | - | - |
| Totals: | 106 | 36 | - | - |

2. Four premises did not comply with the Act. Three premises were cleansed, and in two other cases measures to comply were being taken.

3. Part VIII of the Act

Fifteen outworkers were known to be employed in the District.

4. The District Council is mainly concerned with the enforcement of the law relating to sanitary conveniences at Factories in which mechanical power is utilised, although general powers are provided under the Public Health Acts and Food and Drugs Acts to deal with certain conditions at Factories, and in relation to infectious disease.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the District.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No formal action was taken during the year.

DESTRUCTION OF PESTS

(a) Rats and Mice

The Council employs one Rodent Operator who is provided with a small van and the necessary equipment. A lock-up store is provided for poisons and bait.

The Council is charged with the duty of ensuring that owners and occupiers keep their land free of rats and mice. Whilst free treatment or advice was given at domestic premises, a charge of 10s. per hour was made at 13 business and 23 agricultural premises.

409 separate treatments were carried out and 1626 visits were made during the year.

(b) Other Pests

The refuse tips were treated regularly with insecticide against fly and cricket infestations, and private premises were occasionally treated for cockroach, flea, ant and silverfish infestations.

Forty-two wasps nests were also destroyed.



